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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 001501

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SCE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/08/2018

TAGS: [PREL](#) [UN](#) [UNGA](#) [KV](#) [AU](#)

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN POSITION ON KOSOVO ICJ RESOLUTION AT UNGA

REF: A. STATE 105796

[1](#)B. VIENNA 1242

Classified by: Economic-Political Counselor J. Dean Yap for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Econ/Pol Counselor and Polchief discussed reftel A points October 7 with Franz-Josef Kuglitsch, MFA director for Southeast Europe, emphasizing that the USG will vote "no" on the Serbian resolution to refer Kosovo's declaration of independence to the ICJ, and would welcome other "no" votes or abstentions. Kuglitsch said EU representatives were scheduled to meet October 7 in an effort to agree on a common position. He said the French were seeking support for a compromise under which EU members would agree to abstain, while being permitted to record their objections to the resolution. As in an earlier meeting (reftel B), Kuglitsch averred that the GOA shares U.S. concerns about the possible destabilizing effect of the resolution. Nevertheless, as a strong supporter of the rule of law, the GOA would not vote against referring the issue to the ICJ, e said. The GOA is hoping for a common EU position, and has not determined whether it would abstan or vote in favor in the absence of a common poition, he said.
GIRARD-DICARLO